

**Town of Webster
Office of Select Board
945 Battle Street
Webster, NH 03303
Draft Minutes – April 25, 2016**

Staff Present: Bruce Johnson, Michael Borek (by phone), Nanci Schofield, Wendy Pinkham, Phil Mitchell and Leslie Palmer

Public Present: Senator Andrew Hosmer, Trisha Blake, Scott Sweezey, Tara Gunnigle, Bob Pearson

Chairman Johnson opened the meeting at 6:30 PM.

Tax Collector Karen King met with the Select Board to review properties on the Tax Deed list. She will prepare deed waivers for Board consideration at the next Select Board meeting.

Chairman Johnson began the meeting with two announcements. The annual Roadside Cleanup Day is Saturday, April 30th. Check in will take place from 9am to 10am at the Public Safety Building. The Select Board is currently checking the credentials of the Police Chief candidates and is reviewing all options. The Board is taking its time in making a decision and will be scheduling another meeting next week to continue the discussion.

Senator Andrew Hosmer met with the Select Board to address important issues identified by Chairman Johnson and to take public input. Chairman Johnson noted that although Webster's tax rate is lower than that of surrounding communities, rising property taxes continue to be a concern for residents. He pointed to the downshifting of costs to towns by the state as a reason for the increase despite the fact that the Town's budget is lower than last year. Discussion followed on the difficulty of funding schools, fixing bridges and addressing other needs through a reliance on property taxes. Senator Hosmer reported that the rest of local aid to Towns was not included in this year's budget but revenues are strong and he will continue to fight for funding to municipalities as a member of the Finance Committee.

Administrative Assistant Leslie Palmer presented the following to the Board:

- Selectman Borek moved to accept the 02/29/2016 Select Board minutes as written. Chairman Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- Selectman Borek moved to accept the 04/11/2016 Select Board minutes as written. Selectwoman Schofield seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- Selectman Borek moved to accept the 04/11/2016 Non-Public Select Board minutes as written. Selectwoman Schofield seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- Selectman Borek moved to accept the 04/19/2016 Select Board Work Session minutes as written. Selectwoman Schofield seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- Selectman Borek moved to accept the 04/19/2016 Non-Public Select Board minutes as written. Selectwoman Schofield seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- Selectman Borek moved to accept the 04/23/2016 Select Board Work Session minutes as written. Selectwoman Schofield seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- Selectman Borek moved to accept the 04/23/2016 Non-Public Select Board minutes as written. Selectwoman Schofield seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- Chairman Johnson moved to request that the Trustees of the Trust Funds issue a check in the amount of \$12,350 payable to Right Angle Engineering, PLLC from the Bridge/Culvert Improvements & Related Items Capital Reserve Fund, Account #780187829, to pay invoice #862 for Clothespin Bridge Replacement Engineering. Selectwoman Schofield seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- Chairman Johnson moved to request that the Trustees of the Trust Funds issue a check in the amount of \$1,010.00 payable to Fleece and Flower Farm, LLC from the Bridge/Culvert Improvements & Related

Items Capital Reserve Fund, Account #780187829, to pay invoice #4492 for work at Clothespin Bridge on April 8, 2016. Selectwoman Schofield seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.

- Administrative Assistant Palmer presented a draft Workplace Violence Policy for Select Board review to be approved at the next Board meeting.

Financial Administrator Wendy Pinkham presented the following to the Board:

- The Select Board signed the payroll and accounts payable manifests, two intent to cuts, PO #11 to Atlantic Tactical for \$750 for the purchase of a ballistic vest and PO #12 to Taser International for \$2,244.64 for the purchase two replacement tasers.
- Chairman Johnson signed the Primex property insurance renewal.

Interim Police Chief Phil Mitchell presented or advised the Board of the following:

- 43 calls for service in the last two weeks; things are going well.
- Chairman Johnson reported that he has received complaints regarding several unregistered vehicles on the Fisher property. The Select Board asked Interim Chief Mitchell to pursue the issue.

Old Business:

- Administrative Assistant Palmer will contact Chris Chesley to meet with the Select Board at the next meeting to continue the discussion of a possible zoning violation at 155 Battle St.
- Administrative Assistant Palmer will contact Road Agent Emmett Bean regarding the renewal of the Road Agent contract and ask that any concerns be communicated by his attorney to Town Counsel prior to the next Select Board meeting in advance of signing the contract then.

Public Comment:

- Trisha Blake asked about a large hole on Deer Meadow Rd; Selectwoman Schofield responded that the hole was the result of a water pipe repair by Pillsbury Lake and that after receiving several expensive quotes to repair it, Road Agent Bean indicated that he would repair the road.
- Tara Gunnigle asked about the progress on updating Town property inventories. Chairman Johnson responded that the Police Department inventory is complete, the Fire Department has requested more time to work on it and that the Town Hall inventory is in progress.
- Scott Sweezey noted that although it is a good idea to have an accurate Police Department inventory, the Town probably does not want to make some information public such as details regarding weapons and ammunition.
- Bob Pearson asked to make a statement regarding the signs of support for Police Chief, stating that his family had nothing to do with them. He and Tara Gunnigle will meet with Selectman Borek to continue the discussion they had by phone when Selectman Borek contacted them as a citizen, not as a member of the Board.

At 7:12 PM, Chairman Johnson made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Selectwoman Schofield and approved.

Respectfully Submitted, Leslie M. Palmer